

STATE HOSPITALS ARE OVERCROWDED

General Assembly to Be Asked for Funds Sufficient to Protect Unfortunates.

MANY HAVE TO GO TO JAILS

Commissioner and Superintendents, in Reports, Call Attention to Conditions.

Crowded conditions which are prevailing at most if not all the State hospitals for the insane, and which, in many instances, result in the commitment of patients for long periods in county jails, are bringing forth sharp criticism from citizens in various sections of Virginia, and it is already evident that the coming Legislature will be called upon for sufficient appropriations to relieve this situation.

Editorial comment is being made upon the subject by many newspapers, and with one accord they are declaring in favor of more liberal appropriations for the care of those unfortunates upon whom the hand of affliction has been heavily laid. The Northern Neck News, published at Warsaw, in Richmond county, recently printed the following news item, which has brought the matter again strikingly before the public:

"In a letter to Judge T. R. H. Wright, in reference to the case of an insane man of this county, Dr. O. C. Brunk, of the Eastern State Hospital, has this to say: 'I am very sorry, indeed, that the patient must be kept waiting for admission.'"

Landmark's Comment.

Reproducing the above item, the Norfolk Landmark makes the following editorial comment:

"That is another of the continual reminders that Virginia has not provided enough hospital room for her insane. It is a shame that innocent victims of mental derangement should have to suffer in jail because the State asylums are full. The next Legislature should see to it that the asylums are enlarged and better equipped, and that epileptics are treated apart from the other insane—preferably on State farms."

"By the way, what has been done towards the utilization of the fine tract of land left the State near Lynchburg for the care of the epileptic insane? It is time for that work to be in the definite shape."

Views of Editor.

One of the most prominent educators in the State, in writing upon the necessity for the better care of the insane of the State, says:

"I have no conceivable interest in the matter, of course, except a patriotic desire to see the State to its full capacity, and to see that its full capacity is not neglected in any of these institutions, but I feel that our best citizens ought to take this matter up and bring it sharply to the attention of the next Legislature. Nor has any man written to me a line on this subject, asking me to neglect it. But I have heard it discussed by citizens all over the State—men who are in no way connected with the management of our hospitals—and all agree that it is a serious matter demanding attention."

"The State has made liberal appropriations to various things, including education in all its phases. I gave to Jamestown; I restored the Capitol Building. I think, however, that just as the last Legislature was distinguished by its efforts to do this, so the next Legislature ought to be distinguished by its liberality towards our insane hospitals. A million dollars would not be too much."

"I am also glad that I quite agree with those who are clamoring for a larger provision towards the improvement of our public highways, though I have come to the point where I think that the fair name of the State is at stake in a more fundamental way in this matter of insane hospitals than in any other single point."

"It seems to me that our patriotic citizens, who view things from an unselfish standpoint, ought to be willing to plead the cause of those unfortunate ones who are unable to speak for themselves, and who, from the very nature of their condition, cannot maintain a lobby during the sessions of our Legislature."

"Most causes can be depended upon to have some one to look out for their interests, but here is a cause that will be neglected unless our best citizens unselfishly take hold of it and press it vigorously."

Admitted by All.

It is an open secret, known to the public and admitted by the management of several of the institutions, that the hospitals are crowded, and that the appropriations heretofore made are insufficient for the proper care of the inmates.

In his annual report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1906, which was subsequent to the adjournment of the last Legislature, the then State Hospital Commissioner, Colonel L. V. Lane, Jr., has this to say on the subject of crowded conditions generally:

"The wards in all the hospitals for the white insane are crowded beyond their normal capacity; all the available space everywhere is utilized and a new ward equipped at the Eastern State Hospital, yet there is a crying need for additional room. New buildings should be provided at these hospitals for the reception of patients or many will have to remain in the jails awaiting vacancies."

A great many improvements

Tyler's



In Need of Fancy Vests?

Of recent seasons the Fancy Vest has won a fixed place in the well-dressed man's wardrobe. Most men have several. We are showing a number of new fashions in rich color effects not heretofore attained. Prices range from

\$1.50 to \$6.

and repairs have been made during the year at all the institutions, and paid for out of the money appropriated for their maintenance, but the hospitals need special appropriations for their enlargement and general improvement, which I trust the Legislature will appropriate at their next session. It is badly needed, and it will have been four years since they made a single special appropriation for any of them."

Money Received.

In this same report Colonel Lane submitted the following financial statement:

The receipts from all sources for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1906.

1. Receipts from State treasury for maintenance, including balances from September 30, 1905.....	\$408,145.34
2. Receipts from board of patients.....	13,789.97
3. Interest on daily balances.....	1,254.32
4. Receipts from sales of real property, rents and other miscellaneous sources.....	13,270.34
Total.....	\$436,459.97

The expenditures for the same period were:

1. Cost of maintenance, including officers' salaries, employees' wages, clothing, food and all other expenses of the hospitals not our part, twice enumerated.....	\$369,601.10
2. Improvements, repairs, furniture and fixtures.....	54,417.33
3. Fire insurance.....	3,360.56
4. Balances in bank.....	10,119.98
Total.....	\$437,499.07

As to the balance, Dr. Daniel Trigg, Jr., then acting superintendent of the Southwestern Hospital at Marion, makes the following comment in his annual report upon the lack of funds:

"Although the hospital has been crowded almost to overflowing during the past year, yet no case has been refused admission after proper application had been made. Quite a number of these admitted were old and infirm as is shown in Table II. These cases were received only after the most careful consideration to induce their relatives to keep them at home. In a few similar cases our efforts were successful."

"At the end of the year there remained on file seven applications for admission (four male and three female). For various reasons there has been an unavoidable delay in removing these patients to the hospital, but as soon as it is expedient to do so and proper arrangements can be made, they will be received."

In their report of the same date the special board of directors of the Southwestern corroborate the statements of the acting superintendent in the following language:

"We desire to emphasize especially the completion of the remodeling of the balance of the sanitary fixtures, which is badly needed; the absolute necessity of additional building to relieve the present overcrowded condition of the wards, and the importance of having additional land for the farm."

What Dr. Foster Said.

Dr. L. S. Foster, who was then superintendent of the Eastern Hospital, used this language on the subject in his annual report as of September 30, 1906:

"The hospital has gone to the limit of safety and discretion in receiving patients, until further provision can be made for their comfort."

"This proposition is a serious one to contemplate, for it is just what we need to receive patients that cannot be cared for in the hospital."

"You will remember that in our last annual report, we appealed to the Legislature for special appropriations for the erection and equipment of a suitable kitchen."

Dr. Foster's Comment.

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to enlarge our reservoir and thereby increase our water supply to add power to the building occupied by the female patients, to increase the accommodations for our infirm patients, to erect buildings for the epileptic to provide for the segregation of the consumptive, to give better accommodations for the insane, and to purchase more land for farming purposes.

"Twenty-five thousand dollars was appropriated by the last Legislature for an epileptic colony. When can we hope for any relief from this source? Certainly not until the Legislature has increased this sum materially, and secured a plant large enough to accommodate all the epileptics now confined in the State hospitals."

Apples to All.

No specific complaints were made as to lack of room by the superintendents of the Central and Western Hospitals, though it will be noted that Commissioner Lane put them in the same class with reference to this subject. The reports for the fiscal year just ended are not yet available, but those to which reference is made in this article were drawn subsequent to the adjournment of the last Legislature, when the appropriations for 1906 and 1907 had been made, and all the superintendents and the commissioners knew what amount each hospital was to have for the two respective years.

DIVORCES AMERICAN WIFE.

Woman, Formerly Miss Winans, Put Away by Sir Merrick Burrell.

LONDON, October 16.—Social circles here were surprised to-day by the appearance in the divorce court of Sir Merrick Burrell, who asked for and obtained a divorce from his wife, Wilhelmina, daughter of Walter Winans, formerly of Baltimore, Md. Captain Henry King, of the Royal Horse Guards, was named as correspondent.

Sir Merrick testified that his wife met Captain King a short time ago, became infatuated with him and left her home for him. Other witnesses said the couple had been living together at hotels in Bourne-mouth and at Nice.

The marriage of Sir Merrick and Miss Winans occurred in 1902. The divorced couple have three children.

PLUM FOR GRANT'S GRANDSON.

Algernon Sartoris Is Appointed Secretary of Legion in Oregon.

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 16.—The appointment by the State Department of Algernon Sartoris to be secretary of the Legion at Montevideo, is announced. He is the grandson of the late General Grant, and has been a resident of the District for the greater part of his life. While his many friends regret his leaving the country, they rejoice in his appointment, and many are the congratulations received by him. It is not known just when he will leave for his new post, but it is thought his orders to report at Montevideo will be received within a very short time.

Woman Short Still Alive.

COLUMBIA, S. C., October 16.—A special to the State from Union, S. C., says: Lucy Lacey, the negro who was shot yesterday by a white man, and whom it was reported last night was dead, is still living at 6 o'clock this evening.

Federal Veterans' Reunion.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., October 16.—The annual reunion of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland began to-day. About 400 delegates were present, including representatives of other regimental and brigade associations. Colonel H. H. Fitch, of Pueblo, Colo., delivered the opening address to-night. The veterans will spend much of their time visiting the old battlefields and points of historic interest.

Had Bought Large Blocks of Copper Stock, Which Are Refused.

NEW YORK, October 16.—Trading in both the New York Stock Exchange and the curb market was in a turmoil as a result of excited movements and violent declines in the price of United Copper stocks in the later market. The suspension of the firm of Gross & Kleeberg, members of the New York Stock Exchange, contributed materially to the decline in both markets. This firm had been trading actively in United Copper stocks and it was reported that they were members of a pool formed to support the price of the stock. Apparently there was a break in this pool yesterday, as the result of which the common stock broke from \$50 to \$36 per share, and the transfer agent of the company declined to record the transfer of a block of 16,830 shares, which he said had been sold in violation of the rights of parties having some interest in it. It was reported that Gross & Kleeberg, acting for the interests identified with E. Augustus Heinze, had bought in some of this stock and that the Heinze interests refused to accept the stock because of the manner in which it had been placed on the market.

United Copper common, which closed at \$36 yesterday, opened at \$25 to-day, and during the excitement of the afternoon, went as low as \$10, from which it recovered to \$15 before the close.

The preferred stock, which bore to-day, had been quoted last at \$74, reached the low point of \$24 to-day. Trading in these stocks was confined to the curb market.

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Failed of Quorum.

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Meeting for Divine Healing.

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COPPER'S DECLINE CAUSES TURMOIL

Price of Shares Drops Rapidly from \$25 to \$10 During Day.

BROKERAGE FIRM FAILS

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